

In The Claims:

Please amend the following claims to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A removable cleated outsole system comprising:
- an athletic footcovering having a permanent substantially flat treaded bottom,
 - the treaded bottom having a toe portion, a heel portion, a perimeter side surface,
 - the perimeter side surface defining the perimeter shape of the permanent treaded bottom of the athletic footcovering;
 - a[n] single elastically deformable band [defining] creating a continuous unbroken loop,
 - the band having an unbroken and continuous top edge and a bottom edge,
 - the bottom edge of the band being unbroken and formed in the shape of the perimeter shape of the permanent treaded bottom of the athletic footcovering;
 - a substantially planar unbroken sole surface coupled to the bottom edge of the band, the sole surface configured in the same perimeter shape and size of the permanent treaded bottom of the athletic footcovering, the sole surface sized to extend between the toe portion and the heel portion of the athletic footcovering,
 - the sole surface having a bottom side; and
 - a plurality of sport cleats protruding from the bottom side of the sole surface.
2. (Currently Amended) The removable cleated outsole system of claim 1 further comprising:
- an anchoring strap having a first end and a second end,

the first end connected to the elastically deformable band,
the second end connected to the elastically deformable band,
the sole surface having a toe cap sized to cover the toe portion of the athletic footcovering; and
a rigid substantially planar continuous and unbroken sole plate coupled to and supporting the sole surface, the sole plate formed in the same shape as the sole surface.

3. (Currently Amended) The removable cleated outsole system of claim 2 wherein the anchoring strap is releasably connected to the deformable band and wherein the plurality of sport cleats are turf knobs formed as part of the bottom side of the sole surface of the removable cleated outsole and wherein the sole plate is formed in the same size as the sole surface.
4. (Currently Amended) The removable cleated outsole system of claim 1 wherein the elastically deformable band has a tapered cross-section, is made with spandex rubber and is the sole means for attaching the outsole to the athletic footcovering and
the sole surface containing a sole plate, the sole plate having an exposed top surface, the sole plate being rigid, continuous, unbroken, and sized to the same dimensions as the substantially flat treaded bottom of the athletic footcovering.
5. (Currently Amended) The removable cleated outsole system of claim 1 wherein the sole surface includes a rigid sole plate, the rigid sole plate being continuous and unbroken and sized to have the same perimeter shape and dimensions as the treaded bottom of the athletic footcovering.
6. The removable cleated outsole system of claim 5 wherein the sport cleats are one of a soccer cleat, a rugby cleat, a baseball spike, a football spike, and a track sprinter's spike.

7. (Currently Amended) The removable cleated outersole system of claim 5 wherein the sport cleats are in the shape of a truncated cone with conical sides and have at least two different heights relative to one another when measured from a bottom of the sole surface, the heights of the sport cleats closer to the perimeter of the sole surface being relatively taller than the heights of the sport cleats near a center of the sole surface.
8. (Currently Amended) An athletic footwear system consisting of:
a sneaker with heel portion and a toe portion,
the sneaker also having a permanent continuous treaded external sole with an outside perimeter edge,
the removable outersole covering the external sole,
the permanent treaded external sole of the sneaker adapted for use without the removable outersole,
the permanent treaded external sole being substantially planar;
a removable outersole having a single rigid planar unhinged sole plate, the sole plate the same size and dimension as the permanent treaded external sole of the sneaker;
a plurality of sport cleats protruding from the removable outersole; and,
a[n] single unbroken continuous elastically deformable band secured to the entire perimeter of the removable outersole,
the elastically deformable band sized to removably secure the removable outersole to the permanent treaded sole.
9. (Previously Amended) The athletic footwear of claim 8 further comprising:
a support band attached to the elastically deformable band, the support band sized to stretch across a top surface of the athletic footwear,

the elastically deformable band secured to the perimeter of the removable outersole.

10. (Currently Amended) The athletic footwear of claim 8 wherein the sport cleats are of at least two different relative heights to each other [removably secured to the removable outersole].
11. (Currently Amended) The athletic footwear of claim 8 wherein the removable rigid planar sole plate is directly coupled to the elastically deformable band and wherein a top surface of the rigid planar sole plate is visible and contacts the sneaker when the removable outersole is secured to the sneaker, the elastically deformable band also defining a toe cap sized to fit over the toe portion of the sneaker, the elastically deformable band also having a tapered cross-section ending in a point.
12. (Previously Canceled) The athletic footcovering of claim 8 wherein the removable outersole contains a rigid sole plate.
13. (Currently Amended) A method of securing turf knobs to an athletic footcovering, the athletic footcovering having bottom treads and a top, the method comprising:
 - stretching an elastically deformable unbroken and continuous band around the perimeter of the bottom treads of the athletic footcovering,
 - the elastically deformable band being shaped in the perimeter outline of the bottom treads of the athletic footcovering,
 - the elastically deformable band having an outersole secured to it,
 - the outersole having a top surface and a bottom surface,
 - the outersole having a plurality of turf knobs protruding from it the turf knobs being integrally formed on the bottom surface of the outersole and having at least two different heights when measured from the bottom

surface; and
releasing the elastically deformable band.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising:
[stretching] lacing a support band over the top of the athletic footcovering,
the support band in structural communication with the elastically
deformable band.
15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the support band is
[releasably secured] threaded to the elastically deformable band.
16. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising:
stretching a toe cap connected to the elastically deformable band over the top of
the athletic footcovering.
17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the outersole includes a
substantially flat and rigid sole plate spanning an arch support of the
footcovering, the rigid sole plate being in the same dimension and size as the
perimeter of the bottom treads of the athletic footcovering.
18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the turf knobs are in the
shape of a truncated cone having inwardly bowed sidewalls and have at least
two different heights relative to one another.
19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the entire top surface of
the outersole is substantially flat and is in direct contact with treads from the
footcovering.